FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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LD201258 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

An "official" Iraqi spokesman for the Ministry of Culture and Information "strongly denied" reports that Iraq had agreed to honor a U.S. request that its air strikes be confined to land in an effort to discourage Iranian retaliation, INA reported. Iraq acts "independently and without any pressure or influence from any side or source whatsoever," the spokesman reportedly asserted, stressing that his country "does what is necessary to deter the aggressor."

On the subject of diplomacy to end the war, an "authoritative source" in the same ministry declared that Iraq has "no evidence" to support media "speculations" that UAE President Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan tried to enlist Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's aid in convincing Iran to accept UN Security Council Resolution No 598, INA reported. Iraq "does not trust" Syria "to assume a so-called mediation effort," the source stated and referred to Iraq's "bitter experience" with the Syrian regime's "treasonous stands toward key Arab issues." Furthermore, he stressed Iraq's support for the settlement of the conflict in accordance with "the will of the international community" as expressed in Resolution No 598 and declared that Iraq cannot establish "normal relations" with any Arab country that does not hold the "Arab position on the continuous aggression against Iraq." The UAE president left Syria for home 19 August following a "5-day official and cordial visit," Damascus radio reported. While in Damascus he received a "verbal message" from Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Abu Dhabi radio reported.

The waters between the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman are safe for shipping, according to a military communique reported by IRNA. The communique termed the "first stage" of minesweeping activities "successful" and noted that four mines were deactivated during the 6-day operations.

Regarding action on the battlefields, a military communique reported by IRNA announced that Iranian warplanes bombed the Darbandikhan power station in northeastern Iraq as well as military-economic targets in Al-Halfayah, inflicting "heavy casualties and losses." Iranian artillery fire also caused "considerable damage" to Banmil, the communique noted.

Libya-Chad

There is no enmity between Libyans and Chadians, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said in a statement to JANA broadcast by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio. In fact, he said, there is a confrontation with France and the "imperialist forces" which have "appropriated" Chad and set it, against its will, against Libya. He added that peace will prevail in the region if the French leave and the Chadians who are fighting each other become reconciled. Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated that any conflict that ever existed between Libya and Chad could be solved by the OAU, but warned that "unexpected critical" developments "probably" will take place in Africa if France and the United States continue "as they are." In addition, Tripoli television broadcast a statement by the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison calling on the OAU to shoulder its responsibility in achieving the withdrawal of the French forces from Chad. French President Francois Mitterrand's 19 August visit to Istres, a base for military aid to Chad, confirms France's policy and "aggressive aims" toward Africa, the statement said. JANA noted that Al-Qadhdhafi discussed French "intervention" in Chad in a telephone conversation with the current OAU chairman.

Citing "confirmed sources," JANA reported that aircraft carrying "Zionist equipment and weapons" for Hissein Habre made "several" trips from "occupied Palestine" to Ndjamena during the past several days.

The Arab League's Chedli Klibi met with Al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli to discuss the conflicts in Aozou and the Gulf, JANA noted.

Chad repelled four successive attacks on Aozou by Libya 19 August, Paris radio reported. According to the Chadian Embassy in Paris, the Libyans used 4,000 men in the "very violent" fighting, and the Chadians shot down a helicopter and captured a MIG pilot as well as the deputy of the Libyan commander responsible for operations in Chad.

Lebanon

Libya has agreed to resume its aid to the "liberation and unification front parties," a "senior" PSP source revealed to the Abu Dhabi paper *Al-Ittihad*, adding that the assistance will include "military hardware" pending the approval of Damascus. PSP leader Walid Junblatt left Tripoli after a visit of several days, JANA reported 19 August.

Palestinian residents of the Shatila camp near Beirut are continuing their hunger strike in protest of Amal's refusal to allow free movement into and out of the camp, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. The clandestine also noted that an outbreak of "violent clashes" occurred following the shooting death of a young woman in the Kafr Shima area.

Abu Nidal Group Reportedly Executes 24

JN191829 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] The Lebanese newspaper *Al-Nahar* today published a statement by the Fatah Revolutionary Council organization, also known as the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] front. The statement said that the organization has executed 24 people proved to have been working for U.S., Israeli, and Jordanian intelligence organs.

The statement gave no details on where or when the executions took place.

PLO Executive Committee Begins Meetings in Tunis

JN192030 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee has begun a new round of meetings in Tunis under Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces. The agenda for these meetings includes a number of important political and military issues, foremost of which is the situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. This is especially true in light of the continuing siege imposed on them, the dangerous military escalation, and the joint aggressions carried out against these camps by the Zionist enemy and the gangs of the Amal Movement.

The committee will also discuss the situation of our Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland and the means to bolster their valiant resistance to the Zionist enemy and its hostile and aggressive schemes in the occupied territories.

PLO's 'Arafat Sends Message to PRC Leadership

JN192121 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, yesterday sent an important message to the PRC leadership on the current situation in the region. In the message, Brother Yasir 'Arafat asserted the PLO's appreciation of and thanks for the constant and unflinching support given to our Palestinian people's just struggle by the PRC Government, people, and party.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asked the PRC charge d'affaires in Tunis, with whom he met yesterday evening, to convey this message to the PRC leadership. During the meeting, they reviewed the developments of the situation in the Palestinian arena and the aggressions against our Palestinian camps in Lebanon. They also discussed the siege imposed on these camps in particular, and the developments of the situation in the Middle East in general. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar also briefed the PRC charge d'affaires on developments in the situation in the Arab Gulf region, in light of the continuation and escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, as well as on international events.

For his part, the PRC charge d'affaires reiterated his country's constant and principled support for the Palestinian people's just struggle under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Brother Dr Sami Muslim, director of Brother Abu 'Ammar's office, attended the meeting.

Israeli Vehicle Attacked Near Bethlehem 18 Aug

JN192152 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Communique by spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command — date and place not given]

[Text] Pursuant to instructions, our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland attacked a Zionist military vehicle with incendiary bombs near the Al-Duhayshah camp in Bethlehem in the the occupied West Bank last night. The attack severely damaged the vehicle. A number of enemy personnel sustained various vounds. The Zionist enemy forces immediately cordoned off the scene of the incident and embarked on a large-scale search operation in Al-Duhayshah camp. They detained numerous residents of the camp on the pretext that they were connected with the operation. Meanwhile, our heroic revolutionaries returned safely to base.

Revolution until victory.

'Fatah Uprising' Claims Attack

JN192200 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] A military spokesman of the Fatah Uprising [dissident] Movement's internal command said that a fighter from the Martyr Abu Dhiyab group, which operates inside the occupied homeland, attacked an Israeli vehicle with incendiary bombs in the Al-Duhayshah camp near Bethlehem yesterday evening. The vehicle was set on fire and all of its occupants either killed or wounded. The enemy radio admitted the operation, claiming that no one was hurt.

Immediately following the attack, a large Zionist police force rushed to the scene. They cordoned off the area and arrested a number of Palestinians there. The fedayeen fighter who carried out the operation returned safely to base.

FANT Issues Communique on 19 Aug Aozou Battle

AB201438 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1340 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Communique No 74 issued by the FANT High Command on 20 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] Throughout yesterday, 19 August 1987, a particularly violent battle took place at Aozou, which was attacked by four Libyan columns at approximately 0750 [0650 GMT]. Strongly supported by the enemy air force, the Libyan forces launched a real (?attack) on Aozou and its surrounding areas. The four Libyan columns relentlessly attacked the FANT, but their attacks were in vain.

In fact, by the end of the afternoon, at approximately 1800, our enterprising defenders of Chadian territorial integrity were ableto throw the troops and planes of aggression into complete disarray. The provisional results of the first column's debacle in this memorable battle will be issued very soon. However, we can already say that the enemy columns were severely defeated.

Among the hordes of Libyan troops involved in this (?sensational) disarray, Libyan Colonel 'Abd-al-Salam al-Tawil, assistant to the terrible commander of operations of the expansionist troops, was captured during battle. Similarly, a MIG-23 fighter plane was shot down and its pilot, Captain 'Abd-al-Majid, was captured alive. A combat helicopter was also shot down and its crew killed. This brings to three the number of aircraft shot down since the beginning of the fighting in Aozou; that is, one MIG-23 and two combat helicopters.

Once again the enterprising soldiers, noncommissioned officers, and officers of the FANT have proved — if there is still the need — their courageous fighting and their enthusiasm to defend the nation. Since the beginning of the year, they have chartered a faultless course. May the year 1987 be one of total liberation and the recovery of Chad's territorial integrity, which is almost an accomplished fact with the reintegration of the famous and historical Aozou Strip to the fatherland.

Courageous soldiers, NCO's, and officers of the FANT, the enemy continues its (?aggression) against our country in spite of all the defeats you have inflicted on it. The enemy is apparently not ready to accept a (?peace plan) proposed by the head of state and Government of Chad. But our people are confident, because they have confidence in you and in their (?cause); because our people know your ability to contain every aggression of the Libyan enemy (?with all the means) it has been using from its war arsenal. Victory is certain!

Long live the heroic FANT! Eternal glory to our martyrs! Long live Chad!

4,000 Libyans Repulsed

AB201037 Paris AFP in French 0946 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Paris, 20 Aug (AFP) — Chadian troops yesterday pushed back four successive Libyan attacks against Aozou (in the Chad-Libyan border area), the Chadian ambassador in Paris, Ahmad Allam-mi, announced to AFP today.

The ambassador stated that the fighting was very intense. "The Libyans launched 4,000 men into battle and they were pushed back. They are now in complete disarray," he said. [passage omitted]

'Provisional Tally' of Battle

AB201511 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 20 Aug 87

["Provisional outcome" of 19 August attack against Aozou announced by the FANT High Command in Ndjamena on 20 August]

[Text] Here is the provisional tally of the first attack against the martyred Aozou locality on 19 August 1987 from 0750 to 1000 [0650 GMT to 0900 GMT]:

On the enemy side: 291 dead and (?39) prisoners of war.

Equipment seized: 29 Toyota vehicles equipped with 14.5-mm guns, 10 Toyota vehicles equipped with 107-mm weapons, [words indistinct] equipped with 106-mm weapons, and 25 Toyota troop carriers.

Equipment destroyed: [words indistinct], 34 BMP's.

On the FANT side: We regret that 15 martyrs fell gloriously on the battlefield and 21 soldiers were wounded.

Equipment destroyed: Two AML's [armored vehicles] and one Toyota vehicle equipped with a 14.5-mm gun.

The (?final) results of this (?attack) will be provided later [words indistinct].

Abu Ghazalah on Sudan, Israeli Nuclear Weapons

NC191013 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Aug 87 p 2

[Excerpts] Cairo — *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* office — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has stated that the joint defense pact with Sudan is still in force. The Sudanese have not notified us of its cancellation so far, and for our part, we will not cancel it because it is in the interest of both countries, particularly Sudan, he added.

Addressing the committee charged with looking after Egyptian expatriates' interests, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah noted yesterday that recent statements by the Sudanese regarding the defense pact were a result of a difference of opinion between the two sides on the interpretation of the issue of southern Sudan. We in Egypt consider this an internal Sudanese affair, while Sudan deems it one of foreign aggression, he said.

The defense minister affirmed that Sudan is capable of resolving this issue, particularly since the rebel troops number no more than 4,000 lightly armed gunmen. However, Egypt will not hesitate to provide any military assistance to Sudan, he added, and we recently sent them 12 planeloads of weapons and ammunition. [passage omitted]

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah ruled out the possibility of Israel's using nuclear weapons or resorting to a nuclear solution in any future war with the Arabs. He said that Israel does not possess 200 atomic bombs, as previously reported, and that the bombs it does have are not all caliber bombs [qanabil 'iyariyah]; some are tactical bombs. He added: Israel will not resort to the nuclear solution unless it believes its very existence is at stake, and we in the Armed Forces are conducting studies on this issue. We are training our soldiers for conflict involving the use of nuclear and chemical weapons capable of total devastation. [passage omitted]

AL-SHA'B Urges Stronger Stand Against Israel

PM191545 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Aug 87 p 12

[Dr Mahjub 'Umar article: "Two Sides of One Coin"]

[Text] When the NPUG issued a statement with regard to its position on the nomination of President Mubarak for a second presidential term, the party demanded that President Mubarak open the door of hope by declaring his commitment to three things: first, economic reform; and second, democratic reform. As for the third point, it stated that the president should declare his commitment to the rights of the Palestinian people — especially their right to self-determination, the establishment of their independent national state, and the right of the PLO, as their sole legitimate representative, to represent them in all negotiations conducted in an international conference.

Of course, the NPUG or any other political force has the right to specify whatever it deems suitable and workable under current circumstances and to formulate this in a program that would constitute the minimum ambitions and demands of the people, as well as a start on the long road not just of reform but of advancement.

Perhaps when talking about issues in Egyptian relations and foreign policy, the NPUG has sound reasons for contenting itself with focusing on the stand on the issue of the rights of the Palestinian people. However, this certainly does not mean that the party disagrees with other aspects of Egyptian foreign policy. Indeed, it is most likely that the party sees that commitment to Palestinian rights would possibly prevent further deterioration and constitute the beginning of a line of confrontation and initiative.

However, the problem is that such a statement and other similar statements issued by forces known for their hostile positions on colonialism and Zionism — and for their demand for independence and freedom — may, unintentionally of course, tend to confuse people regarding the position on colonialism in general and Israel in particular.

Commitment to the rights of the Palestinian people as contained in the statement made by those supporting the Palestinian cause is a commitment to what the Palestinian leadership currently adopts; (it is important to note that the Palestinian leadership stresses the demand to return before the right to self-determination). This commitment is also a commitment to national duty, which links Egyptians, Palestinians, and all other Arabs by a joint bond of history, creed, and destiny to the point that such commitment to Palestinian rights could not be considered merely a form of support. It is, indeed, participation dictated by duty. Even if the establishment of the State of Israel did not pose a constant threat of aggression against the Arabs in general and Egypt in particular, the fraternal duty toward the homeland, creed, and destiny imposes the need for effective participation in achieving Palestinian objectives.

Until a few years ago this position was quite clear, and no one believed there was a difference between confronting Israeli aggression and supporting Palestinian rights. This was true until the time came when some abandoned their efforts to liberate Palestine; that is, efforts against Zionist aggression, its existence, and its institutions on a piece of land belonging to the Arab world. They justified this by saying that they only supported Palestinian demands. However, this commitment was soon transformed into an attempt to impose government tutelage over the Palestinian struggle or an attempt to impose political tutelage over it on the part of nongovernmental political forces.

We must admit a grim reality: In the last decade the isolationist propaganda machine, together, of course, with the imperialist and Zionist propaganda machine, has managed to completely separate the position on Palestine and that on Israel, and to transform commitment to the cause from a direct duty of all Arabs and Muslims to a support bestowed graciously only by some. The isolationists exploited local feelings and incitement against the Palestinians and their struggle. This propaganda succeeded in frightening people about the war against the Israeli aggressors, and it distorted the history of the wars which Egypt entered against constant Israeli aggression. Rumors began circulating among people that the Palestinians and their rights were the cause of these wars. This occurred despite the fact that nearly

half of Egyptian society had witnessed these wars and experienced planned Israeli aggression against Egypt because of the nationalization of the Suez Canal in 1956, in addition to the exercise of national sovereignty over Sinai and waterways in 1967. Everyone knows that the reason behind the glorious October war in 1973 was to regain Egyptian territories which Israel occupied in 1967.

In view of these circumstances, feelings of hostility toward the Palestinians and Palestine emerged and the people forgot the ugly face of Zionist aggression against the entire Arab and Islamic nation. They forgot the direct threat to Egypt represented by Israel's existence and the policy of strategic superiority it adopts. The isolationists seized the opportunity to attack Egypt's Arab affiliation and to isolate it from its environment. When they talk about the Palestinian cause, they only talk of the begrudging bestowal [of support for the Palestinians].

Even if Arab governments, including the Egyptian Government, cannot declare their rejection and hostility to the existence of the Israeli state because they are working within the framework of current international relations, which recognize Israel's existence and indeed guarantee its security, Arab nongovernmental organizations are not at all forced to adopt the same position unless they are subjected to similar international pressures.

Arab nongovernmental organizations are neither forced nor requested to limit theselves to supporting the just Palestinian struggle or the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Indeed, their duty is to clarify to the people the truth of Israel's existence and its threats and to propose plans to confront this aggressive existence.

Since this applies to all nongovernmental political forces in the Arab countries, it must apply particularly urgently to Egyptian political forces, as they are in daily confrontation with the enemy since the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli reconciliation agreement.

The task of confronting the Israelis was left to governments and armies before the reconciliation agreement, but now the Israelis are present everywhere in the country. They are actively working to invade the minds and hearts of the people and soften their feelings, not to mention their economic infiltration and the continuation of military readiness to ensure superiority over the Arabs, and Egypt in particular.

This doubles the role of Egyptian political forces, to warn people and enlighten them about the nature of the Israeli enemy and to confront the enemy and his sabotage activities. They are also called upon to continue backing the Palestinian struggle and toparticipate in it. They must not just be content with occasional verbal support. They must confront all isolationist and Zionist claims aimed at distorting this struggle.

These are two tasks representing two sides of a coin. They cannot be separated, and any attempt to do so is in fact concealing a premeditated evil.

Those who claim that they are against Israel but who do not support Palestinian rights are in fact concealing their evil intentions to eliminate the Palestinian struggle or justifying their laxity in working [for the cause]. They are not fighting Israel in any case.

As for those who imagine that they support Palestinian rights without directly confronting the Israeli enemy, they are either hiding their intentions for personal motives — and thus are unable to prepare people for the next confrontation against the unmasked prime enemy — or justifying their laxity in this confrontation and contenting themselves with whatever support they declare for the Palestinians. Thus, they are unable to mobilize people around them against the unmasked prime enemy, Israel.

If the official leadership cannot declare this fact because of the clauses of the reconciliation treaty, what prevents unofficial forces from declaring it, even in a letter to the official leadership?

Everyone knows that political statements will not change the situation, at least for the time being. However, these statements can undoubtedly contribute to enlightening and guiding people. The people must know and remember that Israel is an enemy of Egypt and the Arabs, just as it is an enemy of the Palestinians. This is in order to thwart Zionist infiltration attempts and isolationist propaganda, and to silence the voices of begrudging bestowal and arrogance. This must be done so that Palestinian rights can become an integral part of the confrontation against the Israeli enemy, which will certainly continue until victory is achieved.

Truck With Arms, Explosives Reportedly Seized

NC200932 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Egyptian police this morning seized a truck carrying arms and explosives as it was passing through a checkpoint on a main road north of Cairo. The driver and a passenger escaped.

Al-Qadhdhafi Statement on Chadian Conflict

LD200050 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 19 Aug 87

["Statement" to JANA by leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; date and place not given — read by announcer]

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution made a statement to JANA in which he asserted: There is no enmity between Libyans and Chadians. On the contrary, they are brothers and neighbors more related than any other peoples in the region. Chad will remain forever in need of Libya. In fact, the enmity is between the imperialist forces on the one hand, and the Libyans and Chadians on the other. These imperialist forces have appropriated Chad and set it against Libya against its will. Chad is now only a tool for imperialism to implement its aim against the Libyan revolution and the Arab nation. However, it is Chad that will lose in the end. This is what the imperialists want.

The review yesterday, Wednesday, of the forces at Istresbase by the French president and his defense minister unveiled the French stand to the world. France has become completely naked. France has demonstrated to the world that the confrontation is not between Libyans and Chadians, but with imperialist France. Peace will prevail in the region if French colonialism returns to its own country and if the Chadians who are fighting each other for power are able to reconcile themselves and establish national unity. Any conflict that ever existed between Libya and Chad could be resolved by the OAU. However, if France and the United States continue, then some unexpected critical developments will probably take place in Africa.

Foreign Liaison Statement

LD192112 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] A spokesman for the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has made the following statement: French President Mitterrand's visit to a base for military intervention in Chad in the south of France, as well as his review of the French arms and forces which participate in the occupation of Chad, underscore the aggressive stand which France has adopted for many years. France has exerted extensive military, political, and propaganda efforts to secure the protection and support of the agent 'Ibri [Libyan name for Chadian President Hissein Habre; 'Ibri means Hebrew] to consolidate his aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah.

Despite all the justifications supplied by the French Government to veil its support for 'Ibri and its direct participation in the aggression on the southern borders of the Great Jamahiriyah, the French president's review of the forces of intervention in Chad confirms the same old French policy and supports the same aggressive French aims to consecrate French occupation of Chad and threaten the security of the African Continent.

The presence of French forces in Chad constitutes a direct threat to the security of the Great Jamahiriyah, as well as a danger for the entire region. The agent 'Ibri, under the military protection of France, is free to launch his aggression against neighboring states. What happened on 8 August 1987 confirms this reality. Chad has become, in a more determined way, a base for military aggression at the service of U.S. and French interests and the imperialist tools in the region. The Great Jamahiriyah emphasizes its principled stand to repel the aggression and eliminate its source. It calls on the OAU, through the message sent to its president, to shoulder its responsibility to achieve the withdrawal of the French forces from Chad and thereby remove the factors of tension and conflict and achieve stability and peace in the region.

Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Presents Letter on Chad to OAU

LD191221 Tripoli JANA in English 1055 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 19, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The emissary of the leader of the revolution Dr. 'Ali al-Hudhayri has handed in a written message to Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) concerning the withdrawal of French troops from Chad and holding the OAU responsible from bringing about this withdrawal in that these troops pose a threat that escalates the tension thereby transforming Chad by their presence to a base of aggression threatening the security of Great Jamahiriyah and the entire region.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Kaunda Discuss Chad

LD200956 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1020 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Aug (JANA) — A telephone conversation has taken place between the brother leader of the revolution and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, the present chairman of the OAU.

Their discussion focused on the dangerous French intervention in Chad and its potential risk to the African Continent, as well as the concern which Africans have begun to feel about their security as a result of this intervention.

The conversation also dealt with the demonstration of power staged by President Mitterrand at the French base of Istres yesterday and the need for France to withdraw its forces from Chad in particular and from the African Continent in general.

Palestine Council Gives Support Against Aggression

LD191653 Tripoli JANA in English 1441 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 19, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Palestine National Liberation Movement (Fatah), the Revolutionary Council has announced its firm supportive stand alongside the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership in defeating the imperialist aggression launched against the southern border of Great Jamahiriyah.

A spokesman for the above movement stresses that this direct aggression carried out by imperialism and its stooges represents the conspiracy hatched against Great Jamahiriyah and its role and firmness in standing resolutely in the face of the imperialist-reactionary schemes at all levels.

Israel Reportedly Supplying Weapons to Chad
LD191930 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Aug (JANA) — It has been learned from confirmed sources that Zionist transport aircraft carried out several flights from occupied Palestine to Ndjamena in the last few days.

The sources have verified that the Zionist aircraft were carrying Zionist equipment and weapons to agent Habre to be used in the aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Talks With Al-Asad, Sankara
LD192213 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] A telephone conversation took place between the brother leader of the revolution and [Syrian] President Hafiz al-Asad.

Another telephone conversation took place between the brother leader and Colonel Thomas Sankara, president of the National Council of the Revolution in the Bukinabe Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Lebanon's Junblatt
LD181423 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Aug (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution has received Brother Walid Junblatt, secretary general of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party.

Junblatt Departs 19 Aug
LD191919 Tripoli JANA in English 1822 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 19, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Walid Junblatt, the leader of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party, left Tripoli this afternoon at the end of a visit to Great al-Jamahiriyah.

Arms to Junblatt's PSP, Others
JN200840 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 18 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Ittihad* has learned from a senior party source in Beirut that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has informed Minister Walid Junblatt, PSP leader, that it has decided to resume its material assistance to the Liberation and Unification Front parties. Libya stopped providing material assistance to most of the Lebanese parties 2 years ago. The source told *Al-Ittihad* that the Libyan assistance will include arms and ammunition for the PSP. However, Tripoli made it a condition that Damascus approves the dispatch of any military hardware.

Arab League's Klibi Arrives in Tripoli
LD191506 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Aug (JANA) — Brother Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

On his arrival at Tripoli International Airport, Chedli Klibi made a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he praised the role assumed by the brother leader of the great Al-Fatih revolution in defense of the causes of the Arab nation and its unity.

He also asserted that the visit is part of the consultations and contacts which the Arab League is making on some important Arab issues.

Meets With Al-Qadhdhafi
LD191515 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Aug (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution has received Brother Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general. During the meeting, the two men discussed the imperialist aggression against the oasis of Aozou and the current dangerous situation in the Arab Gulf.

Departs Tripoli 19 Aug
LD191913 Tripoli JANA in English 1821 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 19, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Chedli Klibi, the secretary-general of the League of Arab Countries left Tripoli this afternoon at the end of a visit to Great al-Jamahiriyah.

Syrian Military Chiefs Arrive in Tripoli 18 Aug
LD181448 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Aug (JANA) — Lieutenant General 'Ali Arslan, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Syrian Arab forces, arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Lt Gen Arslan, who is accompanied by Major General 'Ali al-Malahfaji, chief of staff of the Syrian Air Force, was welcomed by a number of officers from the Libyan Armed Forces and by the Syrian charge d'affaires in the Great Jamahiriyah.

BAHRAIN

Ministry Dismisses IRNA Report as 'Incorrect'

JN191122 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Manama, 19 Aug (WAKH) — The Bahraini Foreign Ministry today dismissed as incorrect the statement IRNA attributed to the Bahraini foreign minister following his meeting with the Iranian charge d'affaires in Bahrain.

The Bahraini Foreign Ministry also stressed Bahrain's official position as announced by the Council of Ministers on Sunday, 2 August 1987. It regretted and condemned the violation of the sanctity of God's holy house and expressed appreciation for the facilities extended by the government of Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, to the pilgrims.

KUWAIT

PDRY Foreign Minister Departs After Visit

LD191742 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali left the country this afternoon following a 1-day visit to Kuwait.

He was seen off at the airport by Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Dr al-Dali had talks yesterday with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, during which they exchanged views on holding the extraordinary meeting of Arab foreign ministers due to be held in Tunis next Sunday, developments in the region, and bilateral relations.

OMAN

Visa Requirement for GCC Nationals Dropped

JN191511 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Interior Minister Badr ibn Sa'ud ibn Harib today said that, as of now, all citizens of GCC countries can enter Oman without entry visas.

He said this decision is in accordance with the instructions of His Majesty Sultan Qabus. The decision was made for the sake of promoting the Gulf march within the GCC framework and improving cooperation among our fraternal peoples.

Our people bear the responsibility for strengthening solidarity among themselves to achieve stability and security.

The minister said that Oman welcomes its brothers, the GCC nationals, at any time.

PDRY

YSP Official Meets With Ethiopian Envoy

EA191940 Aden ANA in Arabic 1640 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Aden, 19 Aug — Comrade 'Abd al-Jalil Ghaylan, deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee, met with Comrade Tesema Belay, ambassador of the republic of Socialist Ethiopia in Aden, in his office this morning. During their meeting, they discussed the struggle relations that link the YSP and the Workers Party of Ethiopia and methods of strengthening and developing these relations in the future.

They also discussed current developments in the region, and in particular, the intensive U.S. military presence in the Gulf and Indian Ocean, which threatens the security and stability of the region and endangers its sovereignty. The two sides condemned U.S. military maneuvers in the region and U.S.-French military maneuvers in the Gulf of Aden.

Information Minister, DRA Official Discuss Ties

EA191955 Aden ANA in Arabic 1645 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Aden, 19 Aug — Comrade Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jirghum, candidate member of the Central Committee and minister of culture and information, met in his office today with Comrade Sarwar Yuresh, member of the PDPA Central Committee, DRA minister of state, and chairman of the DRA State Information Committee, who is currently on a visit to our country. During the meeting they discussed various existing cooperative relations between the two friendly countries, particularly in the field of culture and information, and methods of strengthening and developing them to serve the aspirations and hopes of the two friendly peoples, the Yemenis and Afghans, as well as developing the ties of warm relations that link the YSP and the PDPA.

The meeting also stressed the need for strengthening cooperative relations between the Ministry of Culture and Information in our country and the State Information Committee in the DRA. The two sides expressed their readiness to push these relations to a better level to reflect the revolutionary successes of the workers and toilers of the two friendly countries in various fields of life. They also exchanged views on the great political, economic, and social gains realized by the glorious October and April revolutions. [passage omitted]

SAUDI ARABIA

Body of Embassy Official Returned From Iran

LD191929 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 19 Aug (SPA) — The body of Musa'id 'Abdallah al-Ghamdi, an official of the Saudi Embassy in Tehran, arrived this evening at King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport in Jeddah after Iranian authorities gave permission for its transfer to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

The regime in Tehran had made it impossible to transfer Musa'id al-Ghamdi to the Kingdom on board a special medical aircraft for medical treatment in Saudi Arabia. Thus, his health deteriorated in Tehran and his soul returned to its creator.

Guinea President Condemns Iran for Mecca Incident

LD191934 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] His Excellency the Guinea president, General Lansana Conte, expressed his condemnation of the sabotage committed in Mecca by the Iranian regime through its guards and mercenaries during this year's pilgrimage.

The president explained in a message to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, that the Guinea people received with great emotion and excitement the news of the sabotage — which they denounced — that took place in Mecca, the holy place, when Muslims were carrying out their duty in tranquillity. In the name of the Guinea people, the Military Committee for National Reform, and his government, the president called on all Muslims to avoid such actions that stir up the international conscience.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Paper Lauds Zayid's Mediation Efforts in Syria

JN191922 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic
18 Aug 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Awaiting the Good News"]

[Text] Upon his arrival in Damascus last Saturday, his highness the president said that he will study with President Hafiz al-Asad the "conditions of the Arab nation. The ranks of the Arab nation should be unified. This nation should be delivered from the prevailing state of disintegration and fragmentation. This state of affairs has lasted for a long time and has caused continuous losses. I have great hopes of ending this current fragmentation. The supreme pan-Arab interest no longer tolerates this fragmentation and disintegration."

Zayid's hope seems possible to achieve. This is evidenced by his highness' efforts to reconcile Iraq and Syria. Every Arab citizen hopes that these efforts will be crowned with success. This is because relations between the two Arab countries must be governed by accord. Everything else is an exception. Accord between the two countries opens the door for real prospects for a joint Arab action capable of confronting all external and internal challenges imposed on our Arab nation and countries.

The Arab citizens' hopes for the success of Zayid's efforts becomes greater because they view Zayid as an Arab leader who carries the banner of Arab solidarity. Zayid is also viewed as a leader who always seeks to reconcile brothers. He is seen as a leader who deeply believes in the importance of and need for genuine solidarity. He is also perceived as one who has always translated his faith, convictions, and words into honorable pan-Arab stands and acts to be recorded by our modern history.

Our brothers in Syria and Iraq are called upon to respond to Zayid's efforts and to take up the first thread represented by the trip of the president's representative and the minister of state for foreign affairs from Damascus to Baghdad. They are also called upon to cooperate with Zayid's efforts to open a new chapter in their relations.

Our brothers in Syria and Iraq know that their differences have cost the Arab nation a great deal. They also know that these differences were a main reason that the divided Arab ranks could not be closed. This comes at a time when the entire Arab homeland and people are being subjected to a host of dangers that threaten the Arab existence and character, and therefore the Arab future.

We beseech God to crown the president's efforts with success. While doing so, we as Arab citizens believe that regardless of the reasons for the differences between Damascus and Baghdad, they cannot outweigh the necessity of their meeting. If our nation's supreme interests and joint security are taken into consideration, and the absolute priority overcomes other calculations, doors between the two Arab capitals will open, and so will prospects for a prosperous Arab future, which the Arabs have been looking forward to for a long time.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

ROK Presidential Envoy Arrives on Visit 16 Aug

JN161819 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 16 Aug 87

[Text] Choe Chang-nak, ROK minister of energy and resources and President Chon Tu-hwan's envoy to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, arrived in Sanaa today.

In a statement to *Saba' News Agency*, the Korean official explained that he is carrying a message to Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from the Korean president. He pointed out that he will explain the current situation in the Far East, particularly relations between the DPRK and the ROK, and discuss the possibility of our country's participation in the Olympic games, which will be held in Korea next year. Concluding his statement, Choe Chang-nak noted the importance of exchanging viewpoints, particularly concerning the consolidation of technical and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The Korean official was received by Brother Ahmad Muhani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources; a representative of the Protocol Department at the Office of the Presidency; and (?Yi Chu-an), ROK ambassador in Sanaa [title as heard].

Concludes Visit, Departs

JN191442 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Choe Chang-nak, ROK minister of energy and resources, left Sanaa this morning following a 3-day visit to our country.

During the visit, he conveyed a message to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's congress, from ROK President Chon Tu-hwan. It deals with bilateral relations between the two countries and international issues of mutual concern.

In a statement to *Saba' News Agency*, the ROK minister pointed out that his meeting with President Salih and the brother officials has opened new horizons of cooperation concerning bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern. He said that he sensed these officials' understanding vis-a-vis the unity of Korea. In conclusion, he expressed his thanks for the hospitality accorded him and his delegation.

The ROK minister was seen off by Brother Ahmad 'Ali Muhani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources; the ROK ambassador in Sanaa [as heard]; and a representative of the Protocol Department at the Office of the Presidency.

Agreement With U.S. on Air Strikes Denied

JN191731 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1658 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) — An official spokesman for the Ministry of Culture and Information has strongly denied a *United Press* [as received] report on 18 August 1987 that Iraq has agreed to a U.S. request to confine Iraq's air strikes against Iran to land targets in an attempt to discourage Iran from retaliation. The spokesman also said that Iraq has been confronting Iran's armed aggression and the Iranian regime's aggressive and expansionist policy since 4 September 1980. He further stated that Iraq has done so by exercising its legitimate right to defend itself in accordance with international law. The spokesman said that Iraq, in carrying out its defensive operations, does what is necessary to deter the aggressor and force it to resort to peace. He added that from before and during the war, the international community has known that Iraq was acting independently and without any pressure or influence from any side or source whatsoever.

'Source' Comments on UAE-Syria Talks, Mediation

JN192101 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) — In a statement made to INA today, an authoritative source in the Ministry of Information and Culture commented on reports, analyses, and speculation by Arab news agencies and media concerning UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan's visit to the Syrian Arab Republic and the reported attempts to convince the Syrian president to mediate with the Iranian regime to persuade it to accept UN Security Council Resolution No 598.

The source said: First of all, Iraq has no evidence to support this information. Even if this information is correct, Iraq would like to recall what it has frankly stated in the past to Arab officials and the media; that is, that Iraq does not trust the Syrian president nor the Syrian regime to assume a so-called mediation effort in the issues connected with the Iranian aggression against Iraq. Iraq bases its views on good reasons derived from its bitter experience with a regime that adopted peculiar, nay, treasonous stands toward key Arab issues. A case in point is this regime's 7-year alliance with the Iranian regime in its aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation.

The authoritative source added that the world has unanimously endorsed a formula for reaching a clear and balanced solution to the conflict through the unanimous adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 598. Therefore, no room has been left in fact for any mediation effort or the like by any party, be it Arab or international.

The source went on to say that the authority entrusted with following up the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution is the UN secretary general. He added that any attempts made outside this legal and authorized framework, whether by the Syrian regime or any other party, are bound to lead to labyrinths that will take us away from the sound directions that would help end this war. The source said: The honorable Arabs who are eager to end the war and aggression — and we are not speaking here about traitors and accomplices — must work to reinforce and bolster the endeavors exerted to confront the aggression. They must support Iraq and condemn the hostility of the Iranian regime toward Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. They must also pressure this evil regime to make it abandon its aggressive stands and accept peace in accordance with the will of the international community. This will was manifested by the issuance of UN Security Council Resolution 598.

The authoritative source added that this is a sound and effective way to make those beating the drums of war in Tehran realize that their insistence on war will not achieve their illusions, but will increase their losses.

The source also commented on reports and conclusions carried by the media regarding the so-called mediation between Iraq and Syria. He said there is nothing new in this regard. He added: We have previously explained our view on more than one occasion. There is no way to establish normal relations with any Arab side unless that side aligns itself with the Arab position on the continuous aggression against Iraq by the anti-Arab, Zionist Iranian regime.

Saddam Husayn, 'Aziz Confer With U.S. Congressman

JN191259 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz here today. Attending the meeting were the president's secretary, the president's press and information secretary, and the U.S. ambassador in Baghdad.

Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also met with U.S. Congressman Stephen Solarz today. They discussed developments in the Arab Gulf region in light of UN Security Council Resolution 598 issued on 20 July to end the Iraq-Iran war, and ways to implement this resolution.

The U.S. congressman arrived in Baghdad last night.

Oil Minister Returns From Turkey 19 Aug

JN191808 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim and his delegation returned to Baghdad this evening after participating in the inauguration ceremony of the opening of the second Iraqi-Turkish pipeline in Turkey.

Communique No 2,785 Details 18-19 Aug Combat

JN191651 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,785 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 19 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With strong determination, deep faith in God's victory, and unique courage, our victorious forces are continuing their combat oper-

ations along the battlefronts. The following is a roundup of these operations for last night and today:

1. Our brave helicopter gunships today carried out eight combat missions against the scoundrels' troops, equipment, and gun emplacements. They inflicted heavy losses on them. Our helicopters returned safely to their bases, God be praised.

2. Our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah killed 15 enemy troops, blew up 2 ammunition dumps, and destroyed 1 infantry position. Elsewhere in the sector, our patrols found one 40-mm launcher which was left behind by the enemy during previous battles.

3. At midnight last night, a force of our heroic fighters in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan launched a strong and courageous surprise raid. The force reached enemy positions, and killed 11 scoundrels and wounded others. The rest were forced to flee. After destroying the enemy positions and one four-barrel machinegun, our force returned safely to base. Blessed be our brave men of the heroic IV Army Corps.

4. A force of our brave fighters in the II Army Corps central sector launched a destructive raid on enemy positions, killing eight enemy scoundrels, wounding others, destroying their positions, and capturing one PKC machinegun, one GC rifle, and one radio set. After carrying out its duty, the force returned safely to its base. Blessed be our heroic soldiers of the heroic II Army Corps.

5. Four enemy personnel were killed and two ammunition dumps were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

6. One large vehicle and one infantry position were destroyed and one enemy shovel [preceding word in English] was burned in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

7. One infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the VII Army Corps front.

8. A group of enemy boats tried to approach the Al- 'Amiq Port. But the port's brave forces confronted it and forced it to flee.

9. The criminal enemy shelled the steadfast city of Basra with long-range artillery last night and today.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 August 1987

No Official Comment on Iran's Hostage Proposal

TA201020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem says that Israel will not react to Iran's proposal that all foreign hostages in Lebanon be released in return for the release of Shi'ite detainees in Israel and Kuwait. The spokesman told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that it is not Israel's custom to discuss the fate of hostages publicly.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that defense establishment sources also refused to react to this proposal. However, military sources told an AP correspondent in Jerusalem that those who are interested in the release of the hostages in return for the Shi'ites detained in Israel should hold negotiations with Israel.

Iran's proposal was raised by Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He said that Iran will act for the release of the hostages in Lebanon if the United States pressures Israel and Kuwait into releasing the Shi'ite detainees.

Proposal Termed 'Not Serious'

TA201314 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Excerpt] An official in Jerusalem said that the United States has still not contacted Israel on the issue of Iran's proposal to free the foreign hostages in Lebanon in exchange for the Shi'ites being detained in Israel and Kuwait.

Another Israeli official told *Reuter* that in his opinion the proposal is not serious. Earlier, the Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem said that Israel will not react to the proposal because it is not its custom to discuss the fate of hostages publicly. [passage omitted]

Knesset Speaker Denies Getting Iranian Invitation

TA201038 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
20 Aug 87 p 5

[Report by military correspondent Tzvi Alush and Yisra'el Tomer]

[Text] Iranian parliamentarians have recently conveyed a message from Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel.

In the message, Hashemi-Rafsanjani invited Shlomo Hilel to visit Tehran. This has been reported by the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm*. Although the report, which was published a few days ago, notesthat Shlomo Hilel received the message, it does not mention his reaction.

Our correspondent Yisra'el Tomer adds: In reaction to the report, Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel said yesterday: "This is totally unfounded."

Rafi Eytan Comments on Role in Pollard Affair

TA191133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1045 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Rafi Eytan says he was authorized to run Jonathan Pollard, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in the United States for spying for Israel. Eytan, now head of Israel Chemicals, told the Voice of Israel that Cabinet Minister Ari'el Sharon had never dealt with the matter. Once the affair came to light, everything was handled at the political level by Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Shamir, and Yitzhaq Rabin. Eytan also said that he had never lied to the Israel Government regarding the affair. He had accepted responsibility for what happened but was not guilty, as he put it.

Simcha Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset panel that looked into the affair, says evidence presented to the committee showed that Eytan had done everything regarding Pollard without consulting the political echelon.

Knesset member Ran Kohen, of the opposition's Citizens Rights Movement, has urged Defense Minister Rabin to disclose who authorized Eytan to recruit Pollard.

MA'ARIV: Diplomatic Ties With Hungary To Resume

TA200716 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
20 Aug 87 pp A1, 2

[Report from New York by Ran Dagoni]]

[Text] Within a few days, possibly even today or tomorrow, Israel and Hungary will declare a resumption of diplomatic relations. Jewish and other sources informed *Ma'ariv* of this yesterday. According to these sources, the renewed relations will be along the lines of the diplomatic ties between Israel and Poland. One of the sources emphasized that reference at this stage is not to embassies but to lower-level diplomatic representation.

Frequent contacts between Israeli and Hungarian representatives to prepare the ground for renewed relations have recently taken place in Europe in the wake of a visit paid to Budapest last month by Edgar Bronfman, head of the World Jewish Congress. Bronfman met with Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party.

An Israeli source in the United States said that over the last 3 years a gradual and clear rapprochement has taken place between Israel and Soviet bloc countries, and that recently an accelerated rapprochement has been noted especially on the part of Hungary.

It was learned that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will meet with most East European foreign ministers when he visits New York for the opening session of the UN General Assembly during the second half of September. "There is very clear willingness and openness on the part of the East Europeans to hold meetings with Peres," the source said.

Other sources noted that the breakthrough expected in relations with Hungary is part of the effort being made by Soviet bloc

countries to achieve normalization in relations with Israel. "It cannot be assumed that Hungary would have acted had it not received the go-ahead from Moscow," they said. It was impossible to obtain the reaction of the Hungarian UN mission to this report.

Peres Reportedly Meets Morocco's King Hassan

TA200722 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Aug 87 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, recently held a secret meeting with Morocco's King Hassan II. A senior Arab figure connected to the Palestinian issue also participated in the meeting, which was held in Tangier, Morocco. The Lebanese weekly *Al-Kifah al-'Arabi*, which reported this in yesterday's issue, adds that at the end of the meeting between Peres and Hassan, satisfaction was expressed with its results.

MK 'Atshah Meets Egypt's Al-Baz, 'Abd al-Majid

TA201038 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT 20 Aug 87 p 4

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] Knesset Member [MK] Zaydan 'Atshah of the Center Movement returned from a visit to Egypt yesterday. During his visit,he met with Dr Usamah al-Baz, the Egyptian president's adviser, and suggested that a meeting of Egyptian and Israeli newspaper editors take place to discuss a "cease-fire" in the hostile reports published in both countries.

Zaydan 'Atshah also met with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. During the meeting, the Druze MK complained about the Egyptian press, which levels poisonous attacks at Israel. The Egyptian foreign minister replied that the Israeli press is no better because it intervenes in Egypt's domestic affairs. According to him, the Israeli papers carry a lot of reports about instability in Egypt, the poverty prevailing there, and struggles between Copts and Muslims. "You cannot turn us into a second Lebanon," the Egyptian foreign minister told MK 'Atshah.

MK 'Atshah also told the Egyptian minister that the time had come for Egyptians to hold a dialogue with Israeli Arabs, not only with the Palestinians of the West Bank, so that they could be incorporated in the peace process and in promoting the idea of an international conference.

Sources Deny Reported 'Abd al-Majid Complaints

TA191131 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Aug 87 p A2

[Report by Shefi Gabay and Refa'el Mann]

[Text] Egypt has asked that the Israeli consul in Alexandria be replaced; it termed him "persona non grata" and claimed that he does not abide by security instructions, invites himself to various occasions, and even disseminates rumors that attempts have been made on his and his colleagues' lives. This is claimed by the Kuwaiti daily *Al-Watan*, which cites a senior-level official in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. The paper does not mention the consul's name.

According to *Al-Watan*, this request was one of a series of Egyptian demands presented by Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid during his visit to Israel last month.

Another demand raised by the Egyptian minister concerns the "inhumane behavior" of the Israeli border policemen in the Rafah area toward Arab civilians entering or leaving Israel.

'Abd al-Majid also complained about Israelis attempting to enter Egyptian territorial waters without approval, claiming they are tourists. According to 'Abd al-Majid, the Israelis sail in yachts, but Egypt is convinced that they are Israeli Navy personnel.

According to the paper, Peres also had demands for normalization in the education sphere (absorption of Egyptian students into Israeli universities and vice versa).

Rafa'el Mann reports:

Authoritative sources in Jerusalem denied the report that 'Abd al-Majid had complained to Peres about the conduct of the consul general in Alexandria, the conduct of border policemen at the Rafah crossing point, or the infiltration of Navy personnel into Egyptian territory. The sources confirmed that in the past Cairo has complained several times about the conduct of Israeli border policemen at the Rafah border crossing.

4 UNIFIL Soldiers Wounded in 'Atlit 19 Aug

NC201208 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel has said that four UNIFIL soldiers were wounded when gunmen fired rockets and machineguns at them in 'Atlit, near Tyre, last night. Goksel reported that the UNIFIL forces returned fire, forcing the attackers to flee. The four injured soldiers, he added, are a Swede, a Norwegian, and two Ghanaians.

Amal Steps Up Military Presence Around Shatila

NC200622 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] The situation east of Sidon portends serious developments that are bound to reflect on the situation in the Shatila camp, around which the Amal Movement has increased its military presence. According to Palestinian sources, the residents of the camp have begun a hunger strike to protest the exodus of Palestinians from Tyre toward Sidon.

VOL has learned that Syria has summoned Mustafa Sa'd [secretary of the Nasirite Popular Organization] to determine his stand on the ongoing struggle east of Sidon and the present situation in the south in general. This Syrian move comes in the wake of an unsuccessful meeting between Ministers Birri and Junblatt in Damascus and Junblatt's later departure for Libya.

According to the Palestinian sources, the fall of the Shatila camp would constitute a collapse of the most important Palestinian symbol in Lebanon. The same sources add that this would exacerbate the situation in southern Lebanon and probably prompt personnel of the [Palestinian] 'Ayn Jalut and Al-Yarmuk Brigades to deploy along the coastal line as far as Al-Zahrani, cutting off the road for Amal in the south and isolating Tyre and Al-Nabatiyah from Beirut. This development is being discussed between the Syrian leadership and key Sidon figures, headed by Mustafa Sa'd.

Shatila Hunger Strike Continues

NC192130 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] A Palestinian source has announced that residents of Shatila camp have continued their hunger strike for the 2d day in protest against the Amal Movement's failure to lift the siege on the camp and its refusal to allow them to move freely in and out of the camp.

Libya Concerned Over Protests for Missing Imam

NC191639 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] According to the *Central News Agency*, officials from the Libyan Embassy in Beirut have held secret consultations designed to counter those being undertaken by key Shi'ite political and religious figures to mark the anniversary of the disappearance of Imam Musa al-Sadr. Observances of this anniversary by the Shi'ites are expected to turn into anti-Libyan demonstrations, as usual.

The agency notes that senior Libyan officials raised the issue with Minister Walid Junblatt, who is currently visiting Libya. They asked him not to take part in these demonstrations, either in his official or in his party capacity.

UAE President Concludes 5-Day Visit, Departs

JN191133 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad and His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan this morning held a closed meeting, thereby concluding their talks of the past 4 days. These talks dealt with issues related to strengthening bilateral relations and the situation in the region, including the situation in the Gulf and Arab relations.

The UAE president left Damascus at 1300 today following a 5-day official and cordial visit to the country. President Hafiz al-Asad led those who saw him off at Damascus International Airport. [passage omitted]

Zayid Cables Al-Asad

JN191339 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1240 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus, 19 Aug (SANA) — His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received a cable from His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the UAE president, after the latter's departure from the Syrian Arab Republic. The following is the text of the cable:

His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, our esteemed brother and president of the Syrian Arab Republic:

It pleases me, while I am leaving your dear country, to extend to Your Excellency our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for the warm welcome and great hospitality accorded to us and our accompanying delegation during our stay in your noble country. We also thank you for the nobel sentiments expressed during our visit.

I beseech Almighty God to help our endeavors to achieve all that is to His liking and satisfaction. I also beseech God to help these efforts succeed. I also implore God to help our Arab and Islamic nation achieve its objective of solidarity in the interest of the well-being and happiness of its peoples.

I wish the fraternal Syrian Arab people continued progress and prosperity and Your Excellency continued good health and happiness.

Radio Lauds Government Role in Glass' Release

JN191254 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The kidnapped U.S. journalist Charles Glass was released yesterday. He was handed over to the U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. A few hours after his release, General Vernon Walters, the U.S. permanent representative in the United Nations and President Ronald Reagan's personal envoy, contacted President Hafiz al-Asad and conveyed to him the United States' thanks and gratitude for Syria' efforts in releasing the American journalist. In his statement, the White House spokesman also praised Syria's role in the release of the American hostage, who was kidnapped in West Beirut alongside the Lebanese defense minister's son and his companion.

If we set aside the wild and sensational police stories on how the American hostage was released — stories that remind us of James Bond and Rambo movies — we will find that the sensible American statements contain many thanks for Syria's role in releasing the hostage. They recognize in particular Syria's special efforts to ensure the safe return of the American citizen to his family.

Actually, Syria's efforts in persuading the kidnappers to release the American hostage were not for reasons connected with the hostage himself. Nor were they out of conviction for what he was doing in the region or in rejection of the accusation made against him by the kidnappers and their sympathizers. Neither were they made to appease the U.S. Administration which, until recently, has leveled false and unjustifiable accusations against Syria about supporting terrorism. Syria has exerted these efforts because it is against terrorism and also because it does not at all approve of the method of kidnapping innocent people, including journalists and diplomats. Syria believes that such a method neither serves any liberation or humanitarian cause nor constitutes any form of resistance against occupation. This Syrian position on the subject of terrorism and kidnapping was announced by President Hafiz al-Asad on several occasions. What the president says expresses reality and a principled stand based on conviction. Experience has proven that what Syria says is backed by credibility and a strong national will that does not give in to threats or temptations.

When Syria denounced the kidnapping of the U.S. journalist in West Beirut and warned the kidnappers, it meant what it said. Now the U.S. journalist is free, because the kidnappers know that Syria does not fail to carry out what it promises to do and asserts its credibility. Syria will spare no effort to ensure the release of all hostages, although the stands of the U.S. Administration in particular and the Western states in general often complicate matters and hamper the efforts to end the kidnappings in an appropriate humanitarian manner that ensures the safety of the hostages.

In as much as it opposes the kidnapping of innocent people, including journalists and diplomats, Syria strongly supports peoples' right to struggle for their freedom and independence and to resist occupation by all possible and available means and capabilities. It is regrettable that the U.S. Administration, which is creating a big uproar over terrorism, is the one that opposed Syria's proposal for an international conference to define the meaning of terrorism.

AL-THAWRAH on U.S. Praise

JN200703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 20 Aug 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria's Constructive Role" *Al-Thawrah* says: Syria has confirmed through its behavior and

policy that it opposes terrorism and is against all that harms the Arab struggle and the bright aspects of this struggle toward liberation. Syria has exerted sincere, constructive efforts in this regard and has not spared any effort in seeking the release of those kidnapped in Lebanon. The praise of the United States through its senior officials for President al-Asad and the Syrian Government for their efforts to secure the release of U.S. journalist Charles Glass is a frank recognition of Syria's constructive role and its clear humanitarian stance on the issue of kidnapping, which has posed a dilemma for the West at large.

Syria's stance is very clear and was confirmed on numerous occasions by its leader Al-Asad. It condemns terrorist acts and stresses the need to confront these acts. Moreover, this stance adheres to the Arab nation's right to armed struggle against the Zionist enemy, the usurper of Arab territories, in a clear and defined arena — the battlefield — and in a language the enemy understands, because it does not appear to understand any other language.

AL-BA'TH Says No Conditions for Arab Solidarity

JN200821 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 20 Aug 87

[From the press review]]

[Text] Under the headline "No Conditions for Solidarity Except Confronting the Pan-Arab Enemy" *Al-Ba'th* says: Arab solidarity and joint Arab action against the Arab nation's pan-Arab enemy are a duty and a necessary prerequisite at the very least. The Arab situation and the balance of power in the region would have been different had all, or at least most, of the Arabs been convinced of the importance of solidarity and unity to confront the pan- Arab enemy.

Al-Ba'th adds: Syria extended its arms in the past and is now extending its arms today to all the Arab brothers who want to defend the Arab nation, its violated dignity, and its usurped rights, and who want to wage the fateful battle against the cancerous Zionist threat.

Syria does not make any conditions for this solidarity and cooperation except that they should be directed against the Arabs' foremost enemy, the Zionist enemy and the imperialist forces that support it, provide it with the most sophisticated arms for aggression, and back it in defying the international community and resolutions. Syria has always affirmed, through its Arab leader Hafiz al-Asad, that there is room for all the Arabs in the confrontation arena. Any one who is determined can participate in shouldering the pan-Arab responsibility and fulfilling his commitment on the confrontation line. Those who do this will see for themselves that Syria will stand alongside them on the same path, embodying joint Arab action and Arab solidarity through its actions and sacrifices to defend the pan-Arab destiny and protect the Arab nation's generations from ruination and vagrancy.

Najib Speech Marks Independence, Army Day
LD191432 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1630 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Radio and television speech by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Najib on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the restoration of independence; place not given — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear sisters and brothers, the mothers and sons of our beloved homeland. Sixty-eight years ago our struggling fathers and forefathers achieved independence for Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

The heroic Army of the homeland played an epic role in gaining the country's independence. Therefore, the PDPA Central Committee and the state decided last year that the country's Independence Day should also be celebrated as Army Day in Afghanistan. Our courageous Army, a new-type army, besides its mission of liberation, was a great factor in the success of the April Revolution. It resolutely continues to defend the revolution during the implementation of the national reconciliation policy. A good example of this is the recent successful military operations in Qandahar. [passage omitted]

Dear men, NCO's and officers of the Afghan Army, I congratulate you on the festive celebration of the 68th anniversary of the country's Independence and Army Day. May your sword be sharp against the enemies of the homeland and national reconciliation. [passage omitted]

The rank of general has been awarded to hero of revolution, Politburo member Comrade Muhammad Aslam Watanjar. The rank of major general has been awarded to Comrade Atsak, commander of the II Military Corps. The rank of brigadier general has been awarded to other comrades. I sincerely congratulate you, courageous comrades.

Under the conditions of national reconciliation, the role and tasks of the Army are important. Its role is expanding and increasing. We believe that the Armed Forces are accomplishing these tasks in a fine manner. We announced a cease-fire until 15 January 1988 in order to halt the fratricide and war and to maintain peace in our land.

It should be said on this auspicious day that in a relatively short time, the policy of national reconciliation has transformed our country from slogans and hopes into a golden page of history. It has opened the hearts and (?conscience) of our people. National reconciliation has truly become a new way of thinking and has acquired a scientific character.

Our people, tired of war, are relentlessly struggling for peace and for an end to this accursed war. More than 3,350 national reconciliation commissions have been formed. They include over 6,000 opposition representatives. More than 70,000 of our compatriots have returned to the homeland. About 30,000 armed individuals have laid down their weapons and joined the people's sovereignty. They have resumed peaceful work and life.

In order to democratize social life, the law of political parties was passed. The people are discussing the new draft constitution with enthusiasm. They truly consider it their own constitution. After the announcement of national reconciliation, the momentum of the country's economic life has accelerated. Along with the growth of the public production sector, special attention is being paid to the growth of the private sector. National entrepreneurs support national reconciliation, not only in words but in action, and are confident of the future state of the economy.

Economic relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union haverisen to a new level. Direct cooperation has been strengthened. For instance, Moscow city cooperates with Kabul city, and the republics and provinces of the Soviet Union cooperate with the provinces of Afghanistan.

Dear compatriots, independence is [words indistinct] of most peoples of the world and it has been part of our history for 68 years. The freedom of the people of Afghanistan is our sacred honor and solemn banner. Since gaining independence, we have defended it against domestic and foreign enemies. Reactionary forces, imperialists, and counterrevolutionaries urgently strive to take away this sacred right from the Afghans. They want to drag our people into a long, fratricidal war. What can they benefit from such a war? For 8 years this war has given them the opportunity to rob, loot, plunder, and murder innocent people. For 8 years they did not build a single school, mosque, canal, or factory in our ancient land. They have destroyed hundreds of peaceful projects. [passage omitted]

The people wantpeace and ask for peace. What should be the choice of the leaders of our heroic homeland and of the proud party? Should they close their ears and not listen? Should they not agree with these demands? Should they close their eyes? No. Political and state leaders are dutybound to act in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of the people. Wherever there are people, there is politics. Meeting the demands of the people is [words indistinct] politics. The people want peace, therefore the party, state, and government should seek peace. We are sons of the people and patriots of this homeland. We lead the struggle for peace and support the program of national reconciliation which has been proposed by the religious leaders of the country. We follow the will of the people to extricate ourselves from the war. Almighty God, our peace-loving people, and our great northern neighbor, as well as all progressive forces, are helping in our endeavor. However, peace and reconciliation have external and internal enemies, who demand that the war should be continued to the last Afghan. Who is demanding? Those who are enriching themselves at the expense of tears and blood; those who want to kill your husbands and your children; those who want to raze the factories and property of the people to the ground and close [words indistinct] on human beings.

I ask you listeners: Should we struggle for peace or continue the war, killing each other? Internal enemies claim that we are retreating and undermining the gains of the April Revolution. No revolution has reached its goals through war. Revolutions have succeeded along political, economic, and constructive paths, not through subversion, war, and fire. In order for the April Revolution to succeed, peace is necessary. We struggle to bring peace and progressive changes to the country. When we speak of

compromise, we speak of the compromise for peace. I ask you, those who are listening to me: Should the revolutionaries struggle for peace or for the elimination of their people? The duty of world revolutionaries is to maintain peace for their people and for our world and to preserve human civilization. It has been well said that destruction is easier and simpler than construction. However, we believe in construction and we have a lot patience for this. We will continue to be patient.

I say to you, brothers and sisters: Struggle relentlessly and confidently for the great cause of national reconciliation. Strengthen the ranks and unity of the party, the guarantor of our victory. Prove that the people's power is in the Army and the Army's power is in the people.

The national reconciliation policy is the desire of every family, every tribe, every village, and every nationality. This wish will be fulfilled. I ask my costrugglers: Can we accomplish our historical mission in accordance with the wishes of the people and maintain peace in order to achieve prosperity and well-being? Should we accomplish those tasks for which thousands of our dear compatriots have been martyred? How will our people answer these questions? Will they vote for peace or for war? If I ask all those who are listening to me at this moment to raise their hands, thousands of hands would be raised for peace. We see these thousands of raised hands for peace.

People are now expressing views on the draft constitution. We are confident that by ratifying the draft constitution, the people are supporting our peace-loving policy too. We would like to point out what steps we have taken toward welcoming peace, but the opposition does not have outstanding ideas and courageous personalities to engage in peace talks with us.

Dear compatriots, once again we say that the doors of our home, the doors of our common homeland, and the doors of our common hearts are open to all. Let us swear on the blood of our fathers and forefathers to jointly protect and build this land, our heritage. Dear compatriots, sisters, brothers, troops, NCO's, and officers, I congratulate you on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the restoration of the country's independence and Army Day.

Long live our heroic and freedom-loving people! Long live our common homeland, beloved Afghanistan! Sharpen the sword of our Army against our enemies! Long live the memory of the martyrs on the path of the homeland's freedom! The national reconciliation policy will be victorious!

Defense Minister's Speech on Independence, Army Day

LD192210 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Speech by Major General Muhammad Rafi, member of the PDPA Central Committee and minister of defense, on the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the restoration of independence and Army Day; place not given — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots and esteemed friends, men, NCO's and brave officers of the country's Army:

I would like to present my warmest and most sincere congratulations on behalf of the leadership of the DRA Ministry of Defense and all Army personnel to our noble compatriots on the occasion of the anniversary of the country's restoration of independence and DRA Army Day. [passage omitted]

Marking Army Day demonstrates the appreciation of our people for the epic-making and bravery of the DRA Army, displayed in defense of (?the April Revolution), the gains of the revolution, and the realization of the policy of national reconciliation and restoration of security and peace in the country. [passage omitted]

Until the victorious April Revolution, efforts had been made to ensure that the Army, as a force outside politics, would maintain its role. Under these circumstances, the PDPA paid a great deal of attention to the young Army officers. The (?existence) of the party inside the Army prepared the ground for the role of a pioneer revolutionary army in politics. Fundamental transformations in all forces at the international level and progressive (?movements); the influence of our neighbor, the great Soviet Union; and efforts by the PDPA to familiarize the revolutionary officers with progressive education and political [word indistinct] in the Army were intensified. The growth of progressive awareness in the Army brought about the coup d'etat of 17 July 1974 that toppled the monarchy, thus displaying the legal results of expanding the progressive forces in Afghan society, including the Army.

After the monarchy fell, the PDPA continued to work in the Army. It absorbed new members into its ranks from among Army personnel.

On the 1st day of the revolution, the PDPA members in Army party organizations, where a notable number existed, took active part. [Words indistinct] as the tank and air force units and companies took an active part in the success of the April Revolution, and the party representatives in the provinces led and controlled the armed uprising. The organization of the armed uprising culminating in the victorious April Revolution demonstrates the high political maturity and organizational work in the Armed Forces.

At present the duties of the Army with regard to the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation are growing. The external duty of the Army is the defense of the country against foreign aggression and military [words indistinct] being organized by international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism.

Their domestic duty is to defeat extremist, fundamentalist elements, the enemies of the revolution and of national reconciliation, who are being financed, armed, and exported to our revolutionary country by international and regional reaction. [passage omitted]

On one hand, the policy of national reconciliation is gaining nationwide characteristics at this sensitive historical moment in the country. On the other hand, U.S. imperialism and the enemies of prosperity are creating obstacles to its implementation and are trying to impose a difficult economic situation on our people by sabotage. Under these circumstances the Army's duties

are growing in order to secure a peaceful work atmosphere for the masses of the people.

The Army is implementing, and will continue to do so, its historic mission to defend the DRA's inhabitants; assist in the repair and construction of schools, hospitals, mosques, (?wells), and agricultural work; distribute free assistance and medical aid to the people; prepare the ground for opportunities for refugees; and broaden work in the villages and hamlets.

Those who have opposed national reconciliation have attacked us. However, our Army always replies with crushing blows. [passage omitted]

Following the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation, the cease-fire has been extended for another 6 months until 15 January 1988. Specific changes have occurred through gaining new experience in the area of military activities, promoting party and political work, and in the activities of the commanders and our political heads. Improvements have been made in military and political education and training, in accomplishing [words indistinct] service in the forces, order and discipline and unit combat expertise in the struggle against the fundamentalist and uncompromising enemies of national reconciliation.

In the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation, the heroic personnel of the DRA Armed Forces have not spared any effort in earnest service to the homeland and people, even sacrificing their beloved lives.

It must be pointed out that marking Army Day — which reminds us on one hand of the epics of those heroes who have left behind great honors as mementos, and on the other hand of their love and interest in the patriotic training of the people of Afghanistan and the Armed Forces, including the heroic Army of the DRA — plays a valuable role in making our youth believe that service in the DRA Army is a sacred duty and a great source of pride for every person in our country. [passage omitted]

The work results of the Jawza [22 May-21 June] plenum of the PDPA Central Committee demonstrates that the policy of national reconciliation is the only realistic path to restore peace and to safeguard our sovereignty, national independence, and the territorial integrity of our country.

It is obvious that the implementation of the noble aspirations of national reconciliation demand that we comprehensively strengthen the Army to provide a satisfactory defense for our beloved homeland. The Army in the final [words indistinct], together with the Ministries of Internal Affairs and State Security, have been transformed into an organized force of his country.

The draft of the DRA constitution allocates important duties to Armed Forces personnel, particularly the Army, with regard to further enhancement of the combat capability of these forces. [passage omitted]

Under the present circumstances when the cease-fire period has again been extended for another 6 months, our people are continuing their heroic struggle for the restoration of peace and justice in the country. We can say with satisfaction that Army personnel are implementing all demands made by the Jawza plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. They are attaining the higher level of combat preparedness in their proud Army. They realize that the resolution of the Jawza plenum of the PDPA Central Committee is a valuable document for the restoration of peace and calmness, tranquillity and prosperity in the country. Therefore, we will mark the 10th anniversary of the April Revolution with great victories.

Thank you for your attention.

Bomb Explodes in Eastern Market Town; 17 Killed

BK181454 Hong Kong AFP in English
1448 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 18 (AFP) — A bomb has exploded in a rebel-held market town in eastern Afghanistan killing 17 people and wounding 20, the *Afghan Islamic Agency* (AIP), which is close to the guerrillas, reported Tuesday.

The explosion, the first of its kind to be reported by the anti-government rebels, rocked Kaga Bazar, 40 kilometres (24 miles) from the eastern city of Jalalabad, Friday [14 August], AIP said. The dead and injured included peasants from surrounding villages, who come to Kaga Bazar every Friday to sell their goods.

AIP said that rebels in the area had carried out a revenge attack Saturday on an Army outpost near the town, killing several government troops.

The rebels accused government agents of planting the bomb and vowed to step up measures to prevent similar attacks in the future, the agency said.

'Extremists' Arrested in Paghman District

LD200742 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0436 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Kabul, August 19, *Bakhtar* — A number of the extremist elements who created disorder and terror in Karizak village of Paghman District were crushed by the Armed Forces.

At first the Armed Forces asked the extremists to surrender, but the opposite side did not pay any attention to the demand of the Armed Forces and continued firing. Then the Armed Forces took serious steps, as a result of which a ring-leader of the bandits, Aqa Muhammad son of Tazagul, known as Gul was captured and a number of arms were confiscated.

A number of the extremists who had placed skillfully a great amount of explosives in a set of television [as received] were captured here yesterday. The TV set with explosives which was put near to a store selling daily primary goods, in Microrayon No. 3 in Kabul city had been discovered before it exploded, added the report.

Minister Briefs Parliament on Troops in Sri Lanka

BK191614 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was informed that an official team has gone to Sri Lanka to discuss residual matters concerning implementation of the India-Sri Lankan agreement. This includes the establishment of an interim administration for the northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka where elections were to be completed by the end of this year. This information was given by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, while replying to a short duration discussion on the India-Sri Lanka agreement raised by Mr Gopalaswamy, DMK.

Mr Natwar Singh said that the implementation of the agreement is progressing satisfactorily. The exercise of handing over of arms is going on. The agreement has brought a political settlement to the ethnic problem and peace has returned to the island. The minister said that the militant groups have been taken into confidence and exclusive discussions were held with the leaders of the groups including the LTTE leader, Mr Prabhakaran. He described the attitude of Mr Prabhakaran as constructive and helpful. The minister also said that the Indian Army is functioning as a peacekeeping force under the command of the Sri Lankan president.

Mr Natwar Singh clarified that India's position with regard to military assistance to Sri Lanka is what the prime minister had stated in an interview to BBC. Mr Rajiv Gandhi had said that as soon as disarming is done, as soon as there is confidence in local people — Sinhalese, Tamils, government, and citizens — and when President Jaywardene asks us to, we will withdraw the Army instantly.

State Minister on Nuclear Plant Safety, Capacity

BK191032 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] The Lok Sabha was assured that all necessary steps are being taken for the safety of nuclear power plants. Replying to questions, the minister of state for defense, Mr Shivraj Patil, said indigenous technology has been developed for the safety of plants, such as by providing a double container and other devices.

Replying to a question, the minister told the House that by the turn of the century 10,000 megawatt nuclear energy is expected to be produced. He said that total installed capacity of nuclear power plants is about 1,230 megawatts.

'Extremists' Kill 10 Policemen in Andhra Pradesh

BK191256 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, 10 policemen, including 2 subinspectors, were shot dead by extremists in Adilabad District yesterday. According to police, the incident occurred when a 16-member police party had gone to a forest area for a combing operation and were attacked by armed extremists.

The chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, has rushed to the site of the incident.

Paper Links Pakistan Violence to Afghan Policy

BK180944 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
13 Aug 87 p 8

[Editorial: "To Reap the Whirlwind"]

[Text] The increasingly frequent outbreak of violence in Pakistan following its involvement in the Afghan problem has put the Ziaul Haq regime in a spot. While tensions between Pathans and Muhajirs (emigres from India) which caused extensive ethnic strife in Karachi last year continue to plague that city, bomb blasts have been on the increase in Lahore, Peshawar, and other towns in the north-west in the last few weeks. Mardan is the latest town to have been shaken by three bomb explosions killing 15 people. Hardly a day passes without clashes or explosions in the Pak-Afghan border areas. The most serious of these was the veritable battle between Sunni and Shi'a Pathan tribesmen in Parachinar, the headquarters of the Khurram Agency. The Toris are the only Shi'a tribe in the frontier. Fifty Tori leaders were jailed six months ago after they had threatened to block Afghan mujahidins from entering Afghanistan through their area. Their leaders have vehemently denied that they are in league with Kabul as alleged by the mujahidins. The tension has arisen because of the widespread resentment that the interference by Afghan refugees in the traditional feuds between the Tori and Mengal tribes has caused. Rocket launchers, mortars, and missiles have been used on both sides in the recent clashes. Syed Munir Hussein Shah, the Tori leader of the Tehrik Nifaz Fiqh Jafaria, has threatened that if the refugees' interference in the political and economic affairs of Pakistan did not stop "the people of Pakistan will take to the streets to drive them out of the country". Given the fact that there is now a huge black market in the weapons supplied to the Afghan mujahidins, the entire frontier tribal belt of Pakistan has become explosive.

Last month Karachi was rocked by a series of bomb explosions. Gen Ziaul Haq visited the city immediately and said with rare candour that "all these blasts are the result of Pakistan's Afghan policy". He was obviously trying to meet the criticism that he had become indifferent to the sufferings of people caused by Afghan refugees. It is, however, doubtful if the widespread demand that the refugees should be kept on a tight leash will be of any avail. Having gone so far in identifying itself with the mujahidins, the Government of Pakistan now finds it next to impossible to prevent them from creating havoc in the country.

Communique on Results of Minesweeping Operations

LD201046 Tehran IRNA in English 1043 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 20, IRNA — The mine sweeping fleet of the Iranian Navy cleared mines in the waters between north of 25 degrees latitude of the territorial waters of the countries of the region and Iranian territorial waters in the Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz, said a Joint Staff communique here Thursday morning. It said the water way is now safe for shipping.

The communique summing up the six-day mine sweeping operations, the first stage of operations in the Gulf of Oman and the Persian Gulf, said that the successful operations were carried out with participation of the mine-hunting helicopters and mine detecting vessels and frogmen of the Iranian Naval forces.

According to the communique in the course of the operations all participating units detected and defused four mechanically-operated mines 8-12 miles off Khawr Fakkan harbour in the United Arab Emirates. The statement said the Islamic Republic of Iran is capable of protecting safety of navigation in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman and that if the countries of the region should cooperate with Iran safety of shipping would be easily maintained by the Islamic Republic. It added the presence of foreign powers under the pretext of clearing mines which itself heightens the tension, is nothing but an excuse.

In the bold operations the Iranian Navy by relying on God once again displayed its unlimited ability and power. The communique added the Iranian Navy showed its readiness to encounter any provocative move for damaging the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The communique concluded that the mine sweeping operations in the Persian Gulf region between the Strait of Hormuz and 51 degrees east of the meridian, will be carried out in the second phase of the operations.

Majlis Speaker Sees 'Further Humiliation' for U.S.

LD200721 Tehran IRNA in English 0647 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 20, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that the high number of ships in the Persian Gulf is unprecedented since World War Two. Speaking to a group of basij members he said that the U.S. power showdown coupled with mischievious acts of the Iraqi regime and the Saudis, would result in nothing but further humiliation for the U.S.

On the U.S. move to make Iraq halt attacks on ships in the Persian Gulf, the Majlis speaker said that it is what Iran had proposed about two months ago, but that it was turned down at that time on the grounds that it would give an upper hand to Iran.

Now that the U.S. with all difficulties and self-humiliation has escorted two ships, it has announced that it has requested Iraq to halt its attacks on the ships in the Persian Gulf.

Further in his speech Hashemi-Rafsanjani said this latest U.S. retreat was the result of the 'Martyrdom' maneuver of Muslim forces of Iran in the Persian Gulf and also participation of basij forces in war operations which dealt severe blows on the U.S.

In another part of his speech he described the experience of the basij forces as a highly successful one and stressed that steps should be taken to further strengthen the corps and solve their problems. He added that Muslims have compelling reasons to defend themselves and that the basij forces see it their Islamic duty to defend Islam and the Islamic homeland.

Khamene'i on 'Thousands' of Small Craft in Gulf

LD200946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 20 Aug 87

[From the "Holy Defense" program]

[Text] In the wake of the successful "Martyrdom" maneuvers in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, in which a fraction of the sea power of the Islamic Republic of Iran was demonstrated, Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has declared: No military power in the world has the ability to confront thousands of small craft in the Persian Gulf carrying our selfless fighters. This [presence in the region] demonstrates an incorrect assessment by the United States in the Persian Gulf.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy has entered the arena to clear any mines from the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman. Using the latest techniques, our Navy has begun to clear mines from this sealane.

The United States, however, is still suffering from blows as a result of the illogical methods of Reagan and his supporters. This can be seen in that U.S. oil circles have announced that every barrel of oil escorted by the United States from Kuwait out of the Strait of Hormuz costs the United States $10. These circles have predicted that the escort operation will cost the United States an additional $40 billion this year. Which one of the sheykhs in the region will provide this amount, and from which oppressed Arab nation's budget will it come? This point merits a thorough analysis.

Tehran Claims Military Advantage in Gulf Region

LD191051 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 19 Aug 87

[From the "Holy Defense" program]

[Text] Through its military presence in the Persian Gulf, the arch satan, the criminal United States, seeks a direct clash with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the realization of its sinister and hegemonist objectives. However, if it studies the geographical, military, economic, and political aspects of the sensitive Persian Gulf region, it will soon realize that this area will turn into a killing field for its troops and equipment, as the zealous fighters, commanders, and military officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran have stated repeatedly. Should the United States behave stupidly and fan the flames of war in the Persian Gulf, it should realize without any doubt that it will fall into a death trap. It will

be impossible for the United States to save itself or recover for a long time afterwards. Any military action by the global hegemonists will lead to an extensive and lengthy battle. The United States might decide the starting date of such a battle, but its end will be determined by the Islamic Republic's powerful warriors. A war will bring nothing but shame and abjectness to the world-devourers and victory and honor to the forces of Islam. At this point, as a warning to the global warmongers, we review the geographical, military, political, and social conditions of the Persian Gulf region and warn them not to fan the flames of war here.

One salient feature of the Persian Gulf is its dimensions, its length, width, depth, and the narrow entrance to the Strait of Hormuz. The fighters of Islam enjoy a position superior to the U.S. warmongering forces. The Islamic Republic's coastal borders on the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman create favorable conditions for its forces to take positions against any trouble-seeking intruder in order to defend Islam and Islamic Iran. The United States is too far from the Persian Gulf, whereas the warriors of monotheism are stationed here in their own country. This enables our forces to bring in equipment, reinforcements, and supplies much faster. This is a very important military advantage.

Commentary Views European, U.S. Gulf Presence

LD191416 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1054 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] The efforts of Western governments to support Washington's policies is the topic of today's second political commentary.

Following the reflagging of Kuwaiti ships by the United States and Washington's mine laying in the Gulf of Oman, the Western military presence in the Persian Gulf region was increased. In a speech a few days ago, the British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs criticized those governments that have made their military presence in the Persian Gulf contingent on an international decision on the issue. In fact, he called that position an excuse to refrain from sending forces to the region. As has been reported, moreover, the EEC, Britain, France, Belgium, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, in a session scheduled for tomorrow, intend to discuss the coordination of their stands with regard to their military presence in the Persian Gulf and their method of support for the United States there. Considering the recent position taken by Britain and France and the British Government's extensive efforts to bring other European countries into the Persian Gulf, it seems that London and Paris will try to persuade other EEC members to make similar decisions, if possible. A further Western military presence in the Persian Gulf will in effect result in a decrease of pressure on each country in proportion to the increase in the number of countries present. Thus, the possible dangers and repercussions of the plan to protect Kuwaiti ships will not fall on the United States, Britain, and France alone.

Yesterday's comments by the British foreign secretary to the effect that British forces will side, if necessary, with the United States in a military confrontation, again clearly shows that contrary to previous claims by British authorities, the European military presence in the Persian Gulf is to give military support to Washington and to reduce the possible dangers resulting from the plan to protect Kuwaiti ships.

Considering such a policy, therefore, every country that sends military forces to the region, in accordance with their own circumstances, will no doubt strive to involve more Western countries in this hazardous endeavor.

Moreover, the participation of regional governments and their receiving military facilities from those countries are among the aims that will be pursued by Western governments covertly and through secret, active talks. Some of these efforts will inevitably come to light.

The active cooperation of the Saudi regime in extending the scope of reconnaissance flights by their AWACS and using this information to safeguard the security of U.S. ships, as well as the active role played by the Saudi minesweepers to clear a path for the convoy of U.S. warships, have finally forced the Reagan administration to inform the U.S. Congress of its decision to sell $1 billion in arms to Saudi Arabia immediately after the Congressional recess ends.

Therefore, all European powers present in the Persian Gulf and the region's puppet regimes have been acting collectively and in coordination to support Washington's plans. They are trying to rescue Saddam's regime from its self-inflicted quagmire, while putting pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran. Perhaps it can be said that this unprecedented collection of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf, regardless of matters of honor, is on the whole connected to the decisions of the UN Security Council.

In any case, the fundamental question is: If the primary aim of the Reagan administration in sending warships to this region, incurring heavy military expenses, and accepting political disgrace inside and outside the United States was solely to safeguard the continuous flow of oil from the Persian Gulf, could the Reagan administration not halt the Iraqi regime's mischief in the Persian Gulf by putting pressure on that regime and prevent further disruptions? If the Iraqi regime were forced to halt its mischief in the Persian Gulf and its attacks on commercial vessels, what could possibly justify the increasing presence of the Western governments' forces in the region?

In any case, perhaps the Reagan administration has placed itself in a dangerous situation by its hasty, injudicious policies. A successful completion of this task has become the principal aim of the Reagan administration.

The military presence of Britain and France, and their extensive efforts to prevent the United States from coming to any harm, fall generally within the framework of the common interests and aims of the West.

Regardless of all these aspects pertaining to the recent actions of Western governments, the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to decisively reply to any act of mischief. Iran has declared in the past that it will not recognize the flag of any country or the military might of any government as a criterion for political consideration.

Iraq Said Acting on U.S. 'Orders' in War Strategy

NC190842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Report from London by unidentified correspondent from the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] The U.S. news agency UP has announced that the United States has ordered the Iraqi Government to restrict its attacks to targets on Iranian soil and to halt attacks on maritime targets in the Persian Gulf. An independent observer in London has stated: This indicates that Iraq receives orders from the United States about what to target, and that Washington draws up Iraqi military plans. He added: This is not the first time the U.S. hand has appeared in Iraqi attacks on residential, economic, and civilian centers inside Iran. Some time ago documents regarding the supply of CIA satellite intelligence to Baghdad were revealed, and the presence in Baghdad of a CIA department that endorses Iraq's military plans was confirmed.

U.S. officials have announced that their objective in halting Iraqi attacks on Iranian maritime targets is to prevent Iran's retaliatory attacks against U.S. targets in the Persian Gulf. UP reports that the joint U.S.-Iraqi decision was announced after Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, had announced on Sunday that if Iraq attacks tankers, Iran will retaliate, making all oil exports from the area difficult.

Meanwhile, U.S. Government sources, referring to U.S. and British diplomatic support for Iraq in the United Nations, have announced that the United States has concluded that Iraqi attacks on tankers have jeopardized U.S. and British positions internationally in terms of their support for Iraq.

Karrubi, Hajj Official Meet With Khomeyni

LD191057 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mehdi Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Emam-Jamarani, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Hajj, Endowments, and Charity Organization, met with Imam Khomeyni this morning after returning from their hajj trip.

In the course of this meeting, a detailed report was presented to the imam of the ummah on this year's hajj rituals, the march of Iranian pilgrims, and the criminal attack by the fascist police of the Al Sa'ud family on the pilgrims to the house of God.

Saudi Troops Jailed for Refusing To Shoot Pilgrims

LD191727 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Beirut, Aug. 19, IRNA — The Saudi Arabian regime imprisoned a group of its own soldiers because they had refused to shoot at hajj pilgrims during the massacre in Mecca on July 31, disclosed the Jazirat al-'Arab (Arabian Peninsula) Islamic Revolution Organisation in a letter to the IRNA office here today.

The organisation said that the soldiers disobeyed their commanders' orders to open fire on hajj pilgrims and were therefore arrested after the bloody carnage.

The letter quoted travellers returning from Mecca as saying that the Saudi regime has transferred the detained soldiers to prisons in the eastern parts of the country. However, they knew nothing about the number of the prisoners.

Five Muslim inhabitants of Saudi Arabia's eastern province among them two women, who had participated in the unity rally are also reportedly missing, said the letter noting that Shi'ite-populated cities in eastern Saudi Arabia are now under tight security control.

A group of pilgrims residing in these areas have also been arrested and their whereabouts are unknown, added the letter.

Jazirat al-'Arab Statement

NC200643 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] The Islamic revolutionary organization, Jazirat al-'Arab, has issued a statement stressing that the bloody massacre of pilgrims to the house of God in Mecca was carried out in accordance with a premeditated plan coordinated with U.S. security services.

According to the Central News Unit, the Jazirat al-'Arab statement declared: The Saudi authorities placed their military and law enforcement forces on a state of full alert in advance to facilitate their inauspicious plan to massacre defenseless pilgrims in the house of God. In addition, in an unprecedented measure, responsibility for the safety of the pilgrims and the maintenance of law and order had been entrusted to a committee comprised of King Fahd, the ministers of state and defense, and a group of U.S. experts.

Detailing the American Saudi regime's fascist police's attack on the defenseless pilgrims to the house of God with stones, clubs, asphyxiating gases, firearms, and other weapons, which martyred and wounded thousands, the statement said: In this unprecedented crime,the Saudi officials had two goals; namely, to salvage lost U.S. prestige in the Persian Gulf and mask the increasing U.S. military presence there, and to inflict a blow on Islamic Iran. However, this act increased their humiliation before international Muslim opinion and identified the American Saudi regime as an accomplice and suppoter of Saddam in the war against Islamic Iran.

'Al-Hijaz Hizballah' Issues Communique on Mecca

WA201331 Tehran KAYHAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic
8 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] In a communique, the Al-Hijaz Hizballah has exposed the crimes of the Al Sa'ud family regime and its aggression on the Islamic holy places. It warned of the consequences of continuing these criminal practices.

An IRNA report from Beirut has noted that the communique was accompanied by five photos of the martyrs who fell at the hands of the tyrants of the Al Sa'ud family and was distributed in Beirut. The communique [declared] that the Saudi regime had disdained all laws and humane and Islamic practices. The communique stated that the Saudi regime is continuing to abuse the sanctity of the Muslim holy places in the Al-Hijaz region. Indeed, it is proceeding to close the Muslims' mosques and to raze them on the flimsiest of excuses.

Guidance Minister Announces 'Government Week'

NC200559 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] During a news conference, Mr Khatami, minister of culture and Islamic guidance, announced plans for a program called Government Week. While paying homage to martyrs Rajai'e and Bahonar, he said that the objective of Government Week is to renew the bond between the government and the nation. He stated: Every day of Government Week will have a special theme. Monday, 24 August,will be Government and Public Services Day; Tuesday, Government and Majlis Day; Wednesday, Government and Economy Day; Thursday, Government and War Day; Friday, Government and the Oppressed Day; Saturday, Government and Revolutionary Organizations Day; and Sunday, Government and Culture Day.

The minister for culture and Islamic guidance continued: During the course of the week, programs will include events such as exhibitions with the participation of ministries, organizations, and government departments in the (?Azadi complex); ministerial visits to various provinces; and two seminars entitled "Assessment of the Government's Performance in Management" and "Government and the University."

In conclusion, Mr Khatami expressed hope that the government will continually improve its service to the oppressed and that the people will assist the government in its task through just and constructive criticism.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

SAIRI Chief on Desertions

LD191049 Tehran IRNA in English 1029 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19, IRNA — Popular Movement of the Iraqi Muslim people is gaining greater momentum and more people are joining Muslim Mojahedin fighting against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime, said head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohamed Baqer Hakim, here Tuesday.

The SAIRI head speaking in a press conference said that some 30,000 Iraqis have been martyred in anti-government activities, 200,000 are imprisoned and another 100,000 have been deported.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim said that only in southern Iraq more than 30,000 have deserted and sought asylum in hour [as received] region.

Deploring the July 31 massacre of the hajj pilgrims in holy Mecca the SAIRI head refuted Saudi Government's claim that the incident was caused in a clash between the Iranian and non-Iranian hajj pilgrims. He said among the missing pilgrims are a number of Iraqis who had taken part in the rally of antipathay towards unbelievers in Mecca.

Kurds Down Iraqi Helicopter

LD201223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] According to the joint staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], quoting the Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular warfare of the Ground Forces of the IRGC, the defenses of the Iraqi Muslim Kurdish fighters last week shot down one helicopter of the aggressive Ba'thist regime in the Deyhuk region of Iran. The combatants then arrested the pilot, identified as First Lieutenant Majid Muhammad Nuruz.

Kurds Kill 100 Iraqi Troops

LD191635 Tehran IRNA in English 1553 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19, IRNA — Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) smashed a massive Iraqi offensive, backed by warplanes and helicopters gunships, on seven locations in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, northeastern Iraq, last Monday, killing 100 Ba'thist soldiers. The rest of the attacking Ba'thist troops were forced to retreat.

Announcing the above, the Ramadan Headquarters reported today that an Iraqi armoured personnel carrier, two vehicles and two loaders wre also destroyed and a large amount of other light and heavy weapons seized intact by the PUK forces.

In another development, Iraqi Kurdish strugglers ambushed Iraqi troops in Al-Sulaymaniyah and Kirkuk Provinces over the past few days, killing two Ba'thist soldiers and capturing seven others.

Communique No 2,933

LD191648 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19, IRNA — In retaliation for the August 18 Iraqi bombing of Iranian industrial units and residential areas, Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed 'Darbandikhan' power station northeastern Iraq, and also eco-military centers of Al-Halfayah Wednesday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy.

The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions which took place at 07:35 and 09:40 GMT.

Announcing the above, the 2933rd Joint Staff Communique reported that Iranian artillery fire inflicted considerable damage on eco-military centers in the town of Banmil, northern Iraq, yesterday.

The communique said that Iran's Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions and supply routes in parts of the battlefields Tuesday, killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements and one munitions dump of theirs.

Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and 15 enemy gun emplacements and observation posts as well as several munitions dumps were destroyed in parts of the southern fronts in artillery duels with Iranian Gendarmerie forces yesterday.

Movement of Iraqi vehicle columns in Sumar and Chazabeh, western and southern fronts, was checked by Iranian artillery fire Tuesday, the communique concluded.

Tehran Comments on Iraqi Bombing of Border Areas

LD191332 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1046 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] According to available reports, the Iraqi regime has bombed residential and civilian areas of border towns during the last 2 days. Intended to expand the criminal activities of the Iraqi regime and enable it to find refuge from its defeats on the ground and sea front, these attacks are part of the conspiracy which the Iraqi regime has concocted during the existing phase of the war. Meanwhile, the War Information Headquarters has issued a statement in which it draws attention to the increased bombing of industrial, agricultural, and labor [as heard] regions in the west and south of the country. It then asked the Iraqi people to evacuate from the military and industrial regions as soon as possible because Iran was about to retaliate.

The reasons for the Iraqi regime's recent aggression against industrial, labor, and agricultural areas of the south and west of the country merit attention and study in several aspects. First, the Iraqi regime has demonstrated its inability to safeguard strategic points in the battlefields, as seen over the past month when it suffered heavy casualties during ground battles. Repeated counterattacks by the Iraqi regime in the "Nasr-7" operational theater and the mobilization of the Presidential Guard to recapture these areas were all defeated. This clearly demonstrates that even the special forces of the Iraqi regime also lack the capability to execute important and sensitive operations. Naturally, such incompetence can be seen even more in the ordinary forces. A series of infiltration operations, particularly "Fath-5," inflicted irreparable blows on the economic-military structure of the Iraqi regime. This resulted in the expansion of the war theater inside Iraq and gave rise to popular movements and general opposition against the regime.

On the other hand, the Iraqi regime, which initiated the tanker war through the superpowers' assistance under its plan to expand the war in the Persian Gulf, never imagined that 6 months after the expansion of military operations in the Persian Gulf it would suffer a disgraceful defeat. This defeat eventually meant its withdrawal from its previously stated positions.

Meanwhile, the U.S. television network CCN, citing U.S. Government sources, announced that the United States has ordered Iraq to refrain from further attacks on marine targets, and that Iraq has committed itself, except for ground targets, not to attack any other targets in Iran.

This trend should be attributed to the efforts of our fighters and to new planning methods in amphibious and ground warfare, methods that were implemented in several major sea maneuvers, such as the "Zolfeqar" and "Martyrdom" exercises in the sensitive regions of the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Gulf of Oman. However, one must also realize that the Iraqi regime has, during various phases of the war, utilized the weapons of force and military pressure to implement its policies. The recent attacks on residential and civilian regions must be considered as part of the Iraqi regime's aggressive policies.

This comes at a time when, in the last few months, the Iraqi regime has doubled its efforts to have the Security Council resolution approved. It believed that by this step it could achieve the targets it had previously set its heart on. However, as time passed, this resolution, 10 articles of which were approved, was impossible to implement because it ignored Iran's views.

The opposition of some members of the Security Council to resolutions [monsavvabat] existed previously. [sentence as heard] However, the United States enlisted the help of its allies to support the Iraqi regime, thus attempting to bring this resolution to a conclusion in any possible way. At present, opposition by one of the permanent members of the Security Council to the arms embargo against Iran can be clearly seen.

Reuters reports from Baghdad that in the wake of the Soviet Union's opposition to the implementation of an arms embargo against Iran, *Al-Thawrah*, the official mouthpiece of the Iraqi ruling party, carried an article criticizing Soviet policy in the Persian Gulf and on the Iran-Iraq war. It said that these policies were motivated by one-dimensional views, which could not serve world aspirations for peace and security.

In any case, the new move by the Iraqi regime in attacking residential areas demonstrates the total wretchedness of this regime on the political, military, and economic fronts, a situation which has brought it numerous defeats [passage indistinct]. We have always said that we will strongly retaliate against any attack on residential and civilian regions, yet we have never been an initiator of such attacks. We have always wanted to prevent such attacks. Now the international forums and the United Nations must diligently confront this problem. The secretary general in particular must not be indifferent to the renewed warmongering of Saddam. Today Saddam is a war criminal. Confronting such a person is the moral and legal duty of all peace-seeking and freedom-loving people of the world.

Spokesman Comments on Gandhi's Nuclear Remarks

BK191139 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Pakistan has again expressed its readiness to finalize the agreement with India to refrain from attacking each other's nuclear installations. A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today expressed disappointment at the Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's interview with the BBC on Sunday [16 August] last. He said instead of false propaganda, New Delhi should resume negotiations on this treaty. He described the tone of the Indian prime minister in his interview as negative and propagandistic. While seeking international commendation for India's admitted capability to produce nuclear weapons, the Indian prime minister in the same breath expects international opinion to criticize Pakistan for its alleged attempt to acquire the same capability.

The spokesman recalled that Pakistan not only declares, like India, that it has no intention to produce nuclear weapons, but is prepared to join in a solemn and verifiable renunciation of these weapons.

Views Ties With India, Colombo Blast

BK191555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Pakistan has again expressed its readiness to finalize the agreement with India to refrain from attacking each other's nuclear installations. A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today expressed disappointment at Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's interview with the BBC last Sunday [16 August]. [passage omitted]

The spokesman reaffirmed that Pakistan has always tried to establish tension-free good-neighborly relations with India and has never interfered with India's internal affairs. The spokesman said that Pakistan is always ready to settle some of the differences that remain in the draft of the proposed no-war and friendship agreements. The Indian external secretary was also informed of Pakistan's position in this regard when he visited Islamabad in December last year.

Referring to the meetings of the two subcommissions which India and Pakistan held recently in New Delhi, he reported that the proposals made by Pakistan include one very important one relating to the expansion of trade ties between the two countries. Pakistan awaits a positive response from India.

Responding to a question about Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the spokesman said that the government is giving top priority to providing all medical facilities at its disposal to the ailing leader.

The government and the people have been greatly grieved by the incident that occurred in Colombo yesterday in which the Sri Lankan prime minister and some of his Cabinet colleagues were wounded.

Commenting on the incident, a Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan condemns incidents of violence and terrorism. The spokesman added that the president and the prime minister have sent messages expressing their sympathy and concern. The spokesman noted that as a principle, Pakistan does not favor interference by a country in the internal affairs of another. He said that sending Indian troops to Sri Lanka prompts the question of whether India will allow deployment of foreign troops to restore law and order in any of its disturbed states.

Sri Lankan Economic Delegation Arrives for Meeting

BK180621 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] A 7-member Sri Lankan delegation led by Naine Marikar, thedeputy minister for finance and planning, arrived in Islamabad this morning to take part in the Pakistan-Sri Lanka Joint Economic Committee meeting scheduled to begin in the federal capital on 19 August.

Speaking to newsmen at the airport, the delegation leader said that the meeting will discuss ways to identify new areas for economic cooperation. He appreciated Pakistan's assistance and cooperation to Sri Lanka and expressed the hope that his current talks will further increase existing mutually beneficial cooperation.

Navy To Purchase Three Frigates From Britain

BK181624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Pakistan will buy three Type-23 frigates from Britain. A Pakistan Navy spokesman told newsmen in Rawalpindi today that defense committees of the Senate and the National Assembly are considering the fiscal and other aspects of this matter before final approval by the Cabinet.

The purchase of the frigates is part of the Navy's program to replace the present old naval ships with new ones in order to meet the current challenges posed to naval defense in the region.

With the acquisition of these frigates, the Navy will be able to fulfill its role of defending national interests and will become a balancing force, along with discharging its responsibilities.

Continuing Reportage on Parliament Bombing

Parliament To Censor All News

BK200626 Hong Kong AFP in English
0604 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Colombo, Aug 20 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Parliament decided Thursday to censor all news reports as it met amid tight security to debate an extension of the island's emergency laws.

Speaker E.L. Senanayake told the house censorship was necessary because of the "security situation" on the island and investigations into an attempt to assassinate the president in Parliament Tuesday. An attacker fired a shot at the president and lobbed two grenades as government MP's met Tuesday. One MP was killed and six ministers were among about 15 people wounded. The attacker escaped.

Thursday's session was the first since the signing of the bitterly opposed Indo-Sri Lankan accord to end the Tamil separatist conflict.

Armed soldiers and police were deployed throughout the house leading to complaints from the opposition that they could not work properly. Two armed guards were on duty in the press room.

The house was debating a month-long extension of emergency laws in force since May 1983 granting police wide powers.

Reporters would have to submit their copy to a 3-man censorship committee made up of members of the government and the opposition, Mr Senanayake said. The 12-member opposition did not object to the censorship announcement. Radio, television and newspapers have had to submit all reports for censorship since July 30.

Injured Ministers Improving

BK201119 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Parliamentarians injured in the explosion at the Sri Jayewardenepura parliamentary complex are reported to be making satisfactory progress. The Ministry of Teaching Hospital said that Minister Lalith Athulathmudali's condition remains stable after surgery. He is conscious, able to talk, and is continuing to make satisfactory progress. Deputy Minister Percy Samaraweera's condition too has improved considerably after surgery. He is also conscious and in stable condition.

Meanwhile, according to police headquarters, investigations are continuing into the attack in the Parliament building. All employees in the parliamentary complex have been questioned. Police investigations have been widened to include all supporting staff who were present in Parliament at the time of the incident. Police are also inquiring whether more than one person was involved in the attack. Constituents of parliamentarians injured in yesterday's attack are making arrangements to conduct Bodhi Punjas and other religious observances to invoke blessings on the injured.

LTTE Hands Over 'Significant' Amount of Arms

BK181557 Hong Kong AFP in English
1536 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Colombo, Aug 18 (AFP) — The most powerful Tamil rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), handed over a "significant" amount of arms Tuesday [18 August], an Indian High Commission (embassy) spokeswoman said here.

Six truckloads of weapons were surrendered at the northern Sri Lankan air base of Palaly under the July 29 Indo-Sri Lankan peace pact to end the Tamil separatist struggle, she said. But further surrenders could be expected in the north and the east in the coming days.

The surrender was significant both in quantity and quality, the spokeswoman said. The list of weapons included mortars, heavy machine-guns, rocket-propelled grenades, light machine-guns and rifles off all types. Sri Lankan state-run television said 300 items had been handed in.

The High Commission could not say until more detailed reports had been received if the total amount of guns now surrendered might be considered enough for the peace plan to go ahead.

The Tigers also handed over some weapons at the eastern Sri lankan ports of Trincomalee and Batticaloa Tuesday, reports from the area said. The High Commission also said the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation had surrendered an unknown amount of weapons in the northwestern district of Mannar Tuesday.

The Tigers began laying down arms on August 5, but halted the process four days later demanding that India give further assurances it would protect Tamils. On Sunday [16 August], a Tiger spokesman in Madras, south India, said the arms handover would be completed Tuesday.

India's high commissioner (ambassador) here, Jyotindra Nath Dixit, said Monday [17 August] that the surrender of all arms could be expected to take a few more days.

Linked to the surrender has been the release of Tamils detained without trial. Prison officials said another 2,500 Tamils would be released in batches beginning Wednesday [19 August]. Officials have said about 1,000 Tamils have already been released from camps in the south and another 500 from the east. At least 5,300 Tamils were detained, according to official sources.